REAP Conservation Education Program 2001 Grants



Interpretive Resource Kits - \$10,800

Iowa Department of Natural Resources - Total Project - \$40,494

Contact Person - Michelle Wilson

Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Phone - 515-281-8675 E-mail - Michelle Wilson@dnr.state.ia.us

Project Funded - May 2001

Since 1999, the Parks, Recreation and Preserves Division has emphasized developing a quality interpretive program for our parks, recreation areas and preserves. The intent is to institutionalize this program. Seventeen educational resource kits were needed that will focus on water quality, aquatic life, forestry, birds, mammals and landforms. Funds from REAP/CEP and partners, such as IDNR Aquatic Educational Program, Wildlife Bureau, Forests and Prairie Division, and the National Audubon Society were used to assemble kits. The educational resource kits contain written resource materials, curriculum, activity guide, and special tools that will help the naturalist get the message across to our visitors effectively. These kits are currently being used in Iowa's state parks. For more information, contact the IDNR listed above.

Tuition Stipends for Teachers: Biomes In a Changing Climate - \$14,930
University of Northern Iowa - Total Project - \$186,634
Contact Person - Dr. Carl W. Bollwinkel
Center for Energy & Environmental Education, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614-0293
Phone - 319-273-2783 E-mail - bollwinkel@uni.edu
Project Funded - May 2001

This proposal provided tuition stipends for 24 teachers to participate in a Regents Eisenhower program called "Biomes in a Changing Climate". The program was designed for 105 teachers. A pilot component involved a small group of student teachers teaming with their cooperating teachers in a workshop which provided opportunity to interact, plan, organize, and develop integration of standards, curriculum, and school improvement goals. The Environmental Issues Instruction Staff trained 15 leaders/teachers and they then conducted in-depth training. These leaders/teachers are available for leadership activities,in their districts, AEA's, Iowa Conservation Education Council and other organizations.

Walnut Creek Watershed Video Project - \$16,660 Walnut Creek Watershed Project - Total Project - \$7,130 Contact Person - Penny Brown

7638 Hickman, Des Moines, Iowa 50322 Phone - 515-331-6690 E-mail - <u>BrownPennyL@cs.com</u> Project Funded - May 2001

This 15 minute "Walnut Creek Watershed video was produced for educators and placed in libraries, community centers, and city halls of Clive, Dallas Center, Urbandale, Waukee and Windsor Heights. The video takes residents on a journey through their watershed to illustrate how water travels through an urban landscape, demonstrates damaging impacts of water, and shows ways to take responsibility. This can be done through soil testing lawns for adequate fertilizer level, proper disposal of pet waste, "how to" handle household materials, establish native plants, water conservation, impact of impervious surfaces, and easy soil conservation practices to improve water quality and provide a healthy water shed. Walnut Creek Watershed Video is available at Clive, Dallas Center, Urbandale, Waukee, and Windsor Heights library, city hall, and community centers.

Heights library, city hall, and community centers.
Food, Land, & People Resources for Learning - \$30,470
Iowa Conservation Council - Total Project - \$85,770
Contact Person - Wendy Zohrer
P.O. Box 65534, West Des Moines, Iowa 50265
Phone - 515-221-9893 E-mail - WZICEC@aol.com
Project Funded - May 2001

The mission of Food, Land, and People (FLP) was to provide educational resources and promote approaches to learning that help educators and students in grades PreK - 12 to better understand the interrelationships among agriculture, the environment, and people of the world. The proposal addressed the need to do a minimum of 10 new workshops during 2001-2002 school year for 200 or more educators. FLP is a project that needed to be sustained by REAP/CEP, but gradually it is our goal to wean the project from their funding. Commodity groups, the Iowa Farm Bureau and Soil and Water Conservation Districts helped to fund the project.

AdventureQuest Workshop Series - \$20,658 E Resources Group - Total Project - \$55,945 Contact Person - Wendy Zohrer P.O. Box 65534, West Des Moines, Iowa 50265 Phone - 515-221-9893 E-mail - Wzor@aol.com Project Funded - May 2001

The E Resource Group (ERG) along with NW Iowa Tours coordinated, marketed, and piloted four AdventureQuest traveling weekend workshops with staff development credit being offered for educators. Programs focused on natural resources, Iowa history, and environment issues in four regions of Iowa. It targets Iowa educators, naturalists, retired educators and other adults with an interest in Iowa's environment and issues facing Iowa today. The "Explore Iowa's Natural Treasures" series included a pre-AdventureQuest reading list, web sites, AdventureQuest packet of educational materials, thematic activity

worksheets, educational videos, environmental music, literature, evaluation and thematic meals where possible. Stipends of \$150 each to educators, naturalists, and retired educators used for staff development credit or lodging for any programs in the Iowa Natural Treasures"

Projects Wild/Aquatic Wild PLT - Materials & Facilitator Update - \$27,175

Iowa Department of Natural Resources -Aquatic Education Program - \$54,000

Contact Person -Barb Gigor

2473 160th Road, Guthrie Center, Iowa 50115

Phone - 641-747-2200 E-mail - bgigar@netins.net

Project Funded - May 2001

The Iowa supplemental materials distributed with the Project Wild, Aquatic Wild and Project Learning Tree materials were revised to incorporate updated information about Iowa forests, prairies, wildlife, and aquatic resource issues and management. Facilitators were trained in use of the newly revised materials and then provided training for teachers, naturalists, youth leaders and other educators. "Projects Wild", "Aquatic Wild" and "Learning Tree " updates available though inservice.

Conservation in Agriculture & Science Education ICM Program - \$10,250
Iowa Department of Natural Resources - Total Project - \$53,084
Contact Person - Don Sievers
2473 160th Road, Guthrie Center, Iowa 50115
Phone - 641-747-8383 E-mail -dsiever@netins.net
Project Funded - May 2001

REAP funding was needed to implement the Conservation in Agriculture & Science Education (CASE) and Iowa Communications Network (ICN) program. CASE includes a series of five ICN sessions that were provided during the 2001-2002 school year for agriculture, science and other educators. The topics for the five sessions were aquatics, forestry, invasive species, soils, and wildlife. Any educator was welcome to attend one of the 20 downlink sites located throughout Iowa. Continuing education and graduate credit was available for educators who participated an all ICN sessions.

Environmental Education Outreach Education Campaign - \$21,723
Iowa State University Extension 4-H - Total Project - \$33,676
Contact Person - Judy Levings
33 Curtis Hall, Ames, Iowa 50011-1050
Phone - 515-294-4767 E-mail - <u>jlevings@iastate.edu</u>
Project Funded - May 2001

Iowa State University Extension (ISUE) has created an education outreach program which will consist of bulletins on how environmental education efforts affect youth development, adults & communities; news columns, articles, radio spots; and six workshop sessions that target the use of the bulletin information. The bulletins will help practitioners and the public understand the value of environmental education. At the

workshop sessions, Levings and Pease discussed the information in the bulletins and how to use the best practices for their situations. Bulletins are available at Iowa EE website at www.iowaee.org

Winter Solstice - \$16,857

Iowa Conservation Education Council - Project Total - \$39,957

Contact Person - Wendy Zohrer

P.O. Box 65534 West Des Moines, Iowa 50265

Phone - 515-221-9893 E-mail - WZICEC@aol.com

Project Funded - May 2001

ICEC requested REAP/CEP to help fund a winter conference on conservation/environmental education called Winter Solstice which was held January 18-20, 2002 at the Conservation Education Center near Guthrie Center. Up to 150 formal and informal educators attend this workshop. This workshop provides the whole vehicle for new innovations and materials in environmental education.

Celebrating Our Natural Resource Connections - \$16,452
Iowa Conservation Education Council - Project Total - \$34,770
Contact Person - Wendy Zohrer
P.O. Box 65534, West Des Moines, Iowa 50265
Phone - 515-221-9893 E-mail - WZICEC@aol.com
Project Funded - May 2001

On October 26 - 28, 2001, the ICEC sponsored a Fall workshop celebrating our "Natural Resource Connection" for classroom teachers and other environmental educators in NE Iowa. The Fall workshop targeted naturalists and new people to attend. It highlighted special environmental education programs significant to Iowa's natural resources, such as agriculture, environment, water quality education, soils, our backyard, school habitats, and energy education.

"The Math and Science of Architecture" - \$7,000 Iowa Architectural Foundation - Project Total - \$11,280 Contact Person - Barbara J. Schmidt 1000 Walnut Street, Ste. 101, Des Moines, Iowa 50309 Phone - 515-244-1888 E-mail - archschools@aol.com Project Funded - May 2001

The 'Math and Science of Architecture" was a two-day staff development class that used architectural and engineering problems to demonstrate how to engage students in the study of math and science. This was offered in four Area Education Agencies. The program's target was to reach math and science secondary education teachers in 29 Iowa counties. The course provided imaginative and flexible vehicle for teaching established curriculum concepts.

Project WET Workshops - \$35,411
Iowa Academy of Science - Project Total - \$89,229
Contact Person - Dr. David V. McCalley
175 Baker Hall, UNI, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614- 0508
Phone - 319-273-2581 E-mail - davidmccalley@uni.edu
Project Funded - May 2001

Project WET is a national water education program designed to promote awareness, appreciation, knowledge and stewardship of water resources. The Iowa Academy of Science proposed to provide in service, pre-service and advanced water education opportunities for Iowa teachers with Project WET. REAP/CEP funding in 2001-2002 added 100 K-12 Iowa teachers and 500 preservice teachers to the previous list of 1300. WET facilitator network will become facilitator for Healthy Water, Healthy People, and an advanced Project WET Water Quality Education program.

Lewis and Clark - A Traveling EE Workshop - \$17,820 E Resource Group - Project Total - \$60,020 Contact Person - Wendy Zohrer P.O. Box 65534, West Des Moines, Iowa 50265 Phone - 515-221-9893 E-mail - Wzor@aol.com Project Funded - November 2001

Fifty-two educators embarked on an 11 day traveling workshop that concluded with educators searching, writing and adapting EE activities to commemorate the Lewis and Clark Expedition. REAP provided educators with activities that developed a greater appreciation and knowledge of the Lewis and Clark Expedition and its tie to Iowa and its natural resources. They used history as their "hook" to communicate how the Iowa landscape has changed and the impact of humans on wildlife populations. The project also showed them the contrast of the vast changes in 1804-2002 along the Missouri River.

The Bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition will begin in 2003 and continue through 2006, attracting millions of travelers. Teachers need to become more familiar with the landmarks and features, so on June 19-20,2002, they attended the workshop entitled "Explore! Lewis and Clark; the Natural History of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. The two day event gave teachers a basic background of their expedition and the impacts it had on natural, cultural and geographical resources. The hands-on workshop offered to university and staff renewable credit. Workshop sponsors were Woodbury County Conservation Board, Sioux City Public Museum, Area Education

Agency 12 and 4, Missouri River Historical Development, and the Siouxland Lewis and Clark Expedition Committee.

Iowa Corps 2002 provided the opportunity up to twenty Iowa educators to help with the restoration of the tallgrass prairie at the Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge and Prairie Learning Center. They worked along side experts to restore the habitat destroyed, scarred or reduced by human actions the last 100 years. While at the center, they learned scientific and historic aspects of Iowa's prairie heritage and gained access to resources which allowed them to make connections to their environmental education curriculum. Each teacher became a catalyst for further awareness, appreciation and action for Iowa's tallgrass prairies, and recognize the importance of the diversity of plants and wildlife species in the ecosystems remaining in Iowa.

Iowa Wilderness Leadership Program - \$7,931 Iowa 4-H Foundation - Project Total - \$12,663 Contact Person - Dr. Jim Pease 32 Curtis Hall, ISU, Ames, Iowa 50011-1050 Phone - 515-294-1027 E-mail - <u>ilpease@iastate.edu</u> Project Funded - November 2001

The Iowa 4-H Foundation requested REAP/CEP funding to provide training to volunteers on wilderness first aid for graduate credit/stipends for K-12 educators that attend the 4-H Wilderness Leadership training in June of 2002. Volunteer leaders received information on outdoor education and wilderness activities from the web page. The Wilderness Leadership Program, in existence since 1984, helped the young people develop the skills to appreciate and forge strong bonds with the outdoors. Youth who have had experiences such as these are now hunters, fishermen, hikers, canoers, conservationists and environmentalists.